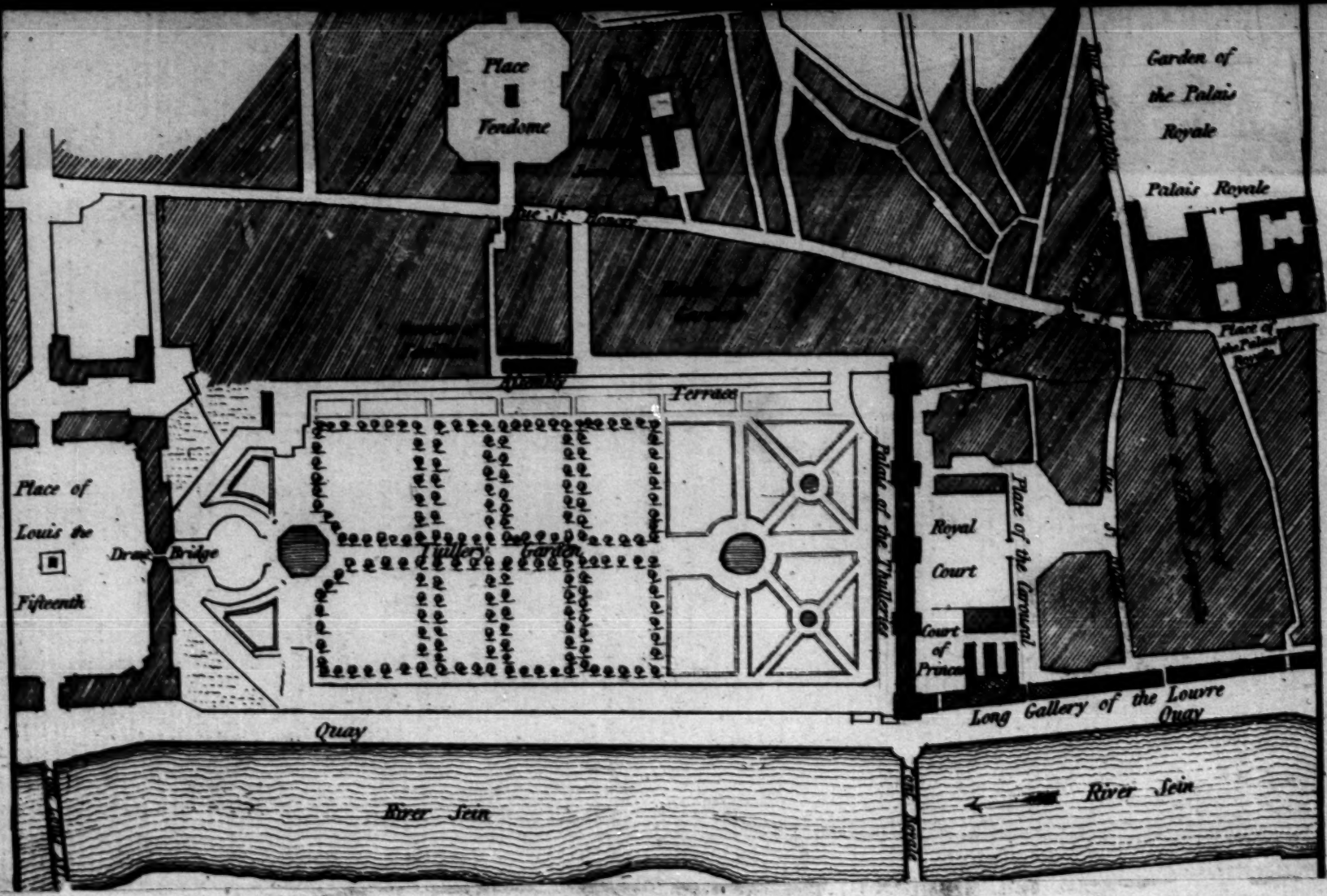
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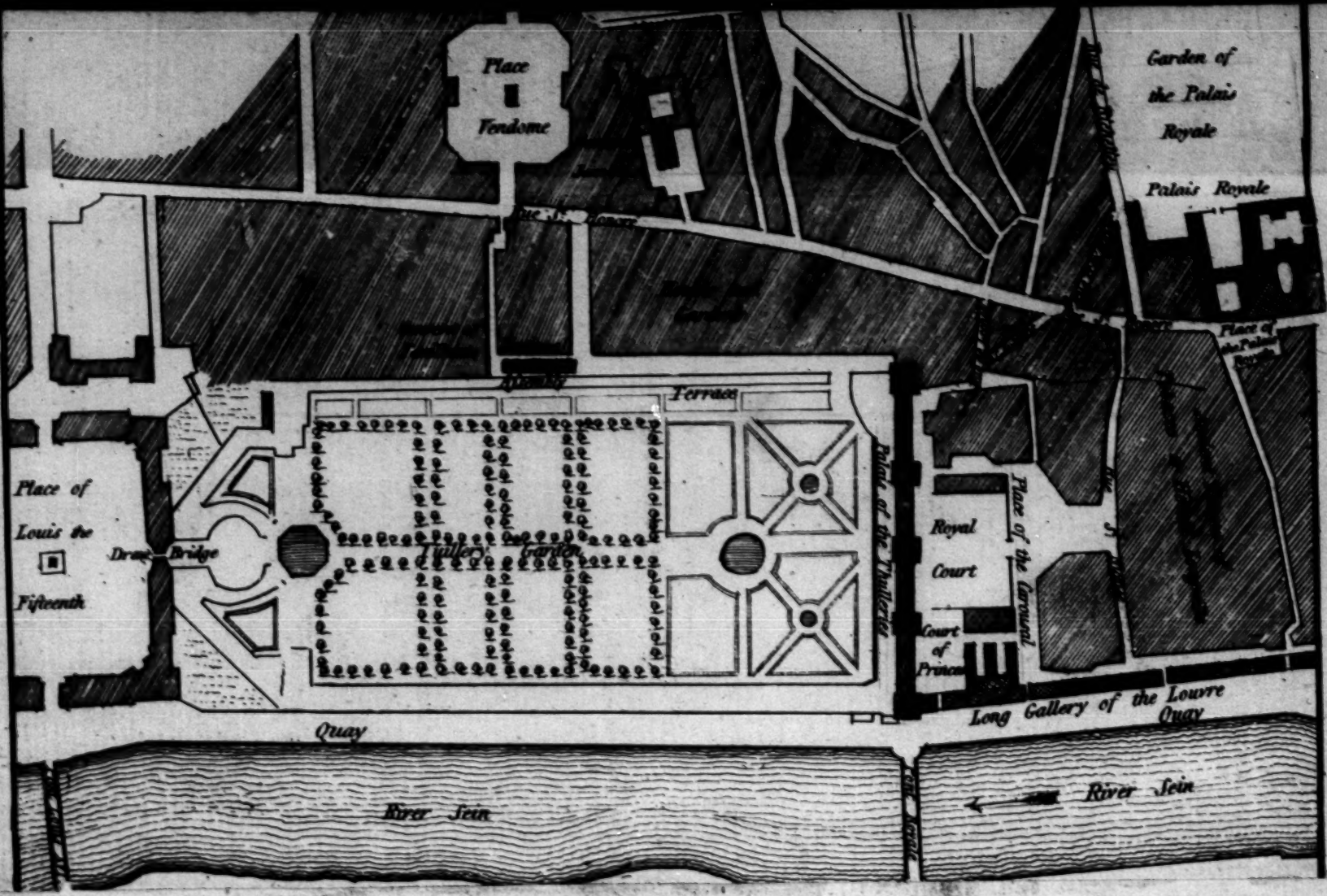
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SHORT ACCOUNT

OF THE

REVOLT AND MASSACRE

WHICH TOOK PLACE IN

PARIS,

On the 10th of AUGUST 1792.

WITH

A Variety of Facts relating to Tranſactions previous to that Date, which throw Light on the

REAL INSTIGATORS

Of thoſe horrid and premeditated Crimes.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED

A Plan of the Palace of the THUILLERIES, and it Environs.

BY PERSONS PRESENT AT THE TIME.

LONDON:
Printed for JOHN STOCKDALE, Piccadilly.
1792.

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REVOLT AND MASSACRE

AT

PARIS.

IT is of the utmoſt importance that all Europe ſhould know, not only the horrid crimes which have lately been perpetrated in Paris, but alſo the crooked and infamous labyrinth by which the principal movers of thoſe crimes have arrived at their ends.

As theſe audacious rebels, who have dethroned their King and murdered in cold blood a foreign regiment, have remained maſters of the field;—as all power is in their hands;—as they have put a ſtop to all communications that are unfavourable to their

cauſe ;—and as they ſuſpended the departure of all foreign couriers until they ſhould have time to give in their own way an account of the tranſactions ;—the truth has not yet been able to find its way to other nations.

Time alone, it is true, will in this, as in other caſes, throw light upon facts, and explain the real connexion between cauſes and effects.—Nevertheleſs, without waiting for that accuracy which time alone can procure, it is neceſſary to contradict falſehood, and ſhew theſe important and diſaſtrous tranſactions, as nearly as poſſible, in their true point of view.

The ruling party in France, which is that of the Jacobins, wiſhes to have the French nation and the whole world believe, that the treachery of the King had worn out the patience of the people, and thereby occaſioned an inſurrection. This, however, is falſe.

The ſame party wiſhes alſo to have it believed, that the Swiſs Guards attacked the people, who were, as they expreſs it, *in the calm pride of Sovereign Majeſty*, only demanding what was juſt ; and that ſuch a traitorous

and

and premeditated attack authorized thoſe inhuman and abominable maſſacres which ſo ſoon after took place. This alſo is falſe.

That ſame party wiſhes likewiſe to appear as ſubmiſſive agents of the ſovereign will of the people. They know the horror of the deed, and dare not take upon themſelves the infamy and everlaſting ſhame which will infallibly be the portion of all thoſe who have aided or abetted one of the moſt cruel ſcenes that ever yet diſgraced the human race. But they muſt participate in that infamy and ſhame, and they muſt learn to know that there are other countries where men dare ſpeak the truth, and that their ſhallow artifices and audacious threats can produce only a temporary effect.

The National Aſſembly itſelf is the principal cauſe of all that has happened; and this is eaſily to be proved by a ſhort and ſimple examination of facts.

It is well known that the ſame Conſtitution which placed the members of the Aſſembly upon their ſeats, had given to the King of France a right of ſanctioning or of ſuſpending

their

their Decrees; and had alſo given to him a guard of 1800 men attached to his perſon, unconnected with every other military body, and having no orders to receive but thoſe which came immediately from his Majeſty.

In the month of May laſt, when thoſe guards had not been above three months on duty, the Aſſembly, in conſequence of vague and hearſay denunciations, contrived by a ſudden manœuvre to have them broken and diſmiſſed. The manœuvre conſiſted in pretending a panic fear, and declaring the Aſſembly permanent and in a ſtate of deliberation night and day, until the danger, which, as they pretended, menaced the nation, ſhould be over. As ſoon as with the aſſiſtance of the mob theſe guards were diſmiſſed, the Aſſembly, without explaining what the danger had been, returned to its uſual ſtate, and even at the time the Pariſians were a little ſurpriſed at ſuch a buſtle for nothing. What proves beyond diſpute the perfidy of this tranſaction is, that among the whole 1800 men thus broke for treaſon againſt the nation, the Aſſembly did not dare to accuſe a ſingle individual.

The

The next ſtep was a decree to have a camp of twenty thouſand volunteers in the environs of Paris. The King, who perceived the intention, and foreſaw the danger of ſuch a meaſure, refuſed the ſanction; and thereby fruſtrated that meaſure. It was this refuſal of the ſanction that gave occaſion to the famous, or, rather, infamous, affair of the 20th of June; when an armed mob, received with applauſe by the Aſſembly, inſulted their Monarch and his unfortunate family in the groſſeſt and moſt unconſtitutional manner, with the avowed intention of obliging him to grant his ſanction. The fortitude of the King having rendered ineffectual this ſtrange attempt, the battery was changed, and the Aſſembly ſtill led the way.

The individuals who were to have compoſed this camp, were invited by the Jacobin Club to come to Paris under the pretence of the commemoration of the 14th of July. The number that arrived for that epoch was very inconſiderable, and what ſhews clearly that the fœderation of the 14th was not the object they had in view, is, that the *Fœdérés*, as they called themſelves, arrived in great

numbers after the day was paſt, and refuſed to go away.

Thoſe who have not ſeen theſe Federates will, doubtleſs, be curious to know what ſort of perſons the different departments of France had ſent in order to repreſent them in this irregular manner. Unlike thoſe reſpectable citizens who came at their own expence to the Federation of 1790, and who, actuated by a ſtrong and real love of freedom, ſhewed their attachment to their King and Country by ſubmiſſion to the laws, and a proper conduct towards their fellow citizens, the Federates of 1792 were diſtinguiſhed by that livid, hardened, and impudent front which generally characteriſes men who live by ſubverting the law, and invading property.—They were in general from about ſixteen to thirty years of age, cloathed in rags, and covered with dirt; men whoſe employment ever ſince the reign of anarchy had been to create confuſion and augment diſorder in their own reſpective provinces. To all theſe were added, by way of pre-eminence, a band of thoſe ruffians who had ſo long deſolated Avignon, Arles, and the Southern Provinces. Collected on purpoſe,

theſe banditti, who called themſelves Marſeillois, began their exploits at Paris, on the day of their arrival, by an open murder, and ſeveral aſſaſſinations; and carried their inſolence to ſuch a pitch, as to oblige the Pariſians to wear a cockade in the form they choſe to preſcribe. The puſillanimous Pariſians ſubmitted, and that city, which has the inſolence and vanity to compare itſelf to ancient Rome, and which is actually peopled with 700,000 inhabitants, received the law from 500 ragamuffins, without arms, and almoſt without ſhoes.

It may be aſked, what were the Aſſembly about all this time, while the lives, property, and liberty, of the inhabitants of the capital were thus menaced?—Did they take any meaſures to prevent ſuch diſorders? No; on the contrary, it was decreed that four regiments of French troops, and all the Swiſs Guards, ſhould evacuate Paris immediately, and thus leave the King, the citizens, and the Aſſembly, under the power of thoſe wretches, whom the Aſſembly itſelf, and the Jacobin Club, had collected together. They did ſtill more, and to complete the means of triumph for the multitude, decreed that

every perſon ſhould be armed with a pike.—Will it hereafter be believed that it was on the authority of a decree from the Legiſlature that the rioters on the 20th of June were armed with pikes?

The decree that ordered the ſending away the troops of the line from Paris was literally and readily put in execution, ſo far as reſpected the French troops; but as to the Swiſs Guards, Monſieur D'Affry their commander ſignified, that the treaty with the Cantons forbad their being ſeparated from the perſon of his Majeſty, unleſs by their own conſent. Thus another obſtacle ſtill remained to the project of leaving the King abſolutely defenceleſs, and at the mercy of the multitude.

The regular French troops had no ſooner departed, than the Federates attempted to enter the King's apartments during the night, by the long gallery of the Louvre. But before they had time to execute their deſign the Swiſs Guards then on duty were called, and prevented them from penetrating beyond the gallery. This happened on the 24th of July, and ſerved to inflame the minds of the demo-

democratic party againſt the faithful guards, whoſe deſtruction was from that moment determined, as a ſtep abſolutely neceſſary to the attainment of ſucceſs.

The Aſſembly, however, made ſtill another attempt, in the beginning of the month of Auguſt, to force the King to ſend away the Swiſs guards; and the unfortunate Monarch, who had nearly loſt all hope of being able to protect himſelf, ordered a detachment of 300 men to quit the capital, which they did on the 7th of Auguſt. The greateſt part of thoſe who remained were at their barracks at Courbevoie, about ſix miles out of town, and beyond the Pont Neuilly; there remained in the palace not more than five or ſix hundred men, or, according to the beſt information only 450.

Whilſt all this was going on with the evident intention of leaving the King defenceleſs, petitions were ſolicited and obtained in all manner of ways, and from all quarters, demanding in the moſt inſolent, unconſtitutional, and rebellious manner, the deſtitution of the King; and the applauſe with which the Aſſembly received thoſe petitions was pro-

proportioned, generally, to the violent and rebellious principles and expreſſions of the petitioners.

Such a combination of circumſtances and facts, all tending clearly towards the entire cruſhing of royalty, and putting every thing under the power of the people, leaves no doubt reſpecting the real intentions of the Aſſembly, of which the leading Members were Jacobins, who received and treated the Federates as friends and brothers.

At the ſame time that things were thus proceeding in a rapid career towards the deſtitution of the King, the enemies, which the nation by her ridiculous and inſolent conduct had ſtirred up, approached the frontiers; and the Manifeſto of the Duke of Brunſwick, in the names of the Emperor and King of Pruſſia, had appeared; in conſequence of which the Aſſembly had declared the nation in danger, and had decreed that their ſittings ſhould be permanent. The different communities and public bodies of the kingdom were likewiſe declared to be in a ſtate of permanence; and this laſt is a circumſtance of more importance than at firſt

ſight

ſight it appears; for one of the principal conſequences reſulting from this permanence is, that their decrees and reſolutions have at all times full force, and are good, whatever may be the number of Members preſent; ſo that during the night, when there are few, it becomes a very eaſy matter for a party to carry any reſolutions which it may think proper. It was thus that the Sections of Paris were made to appear to petition for the dethroning of the King; and it was thus that the voice of a few midnight caballers had the appearance of being the general voice of the citizens of Paris. It was by means of this contrivance, that the firſt grand manœuvre preceding the maſſacre of the 10th, took place at midnight, and put the city completely into the hands of republicans of the moſt extravagant principles and ruined fortunes.

It is now neceſſary to come to the events of that ever-memorable and ever-horrible day. On the 8th the Aſſembly had acquitted Monſieur de la Fayette of an accuſation brought againſt him, and this acquittal was conſidered by the Jacobins as an omen that the dethroning of the King would not be voted on the 10th, the day on which that im-

important queſtion was to be diſcuſſed; and indeed it is more than probable that this concluſion would have been juſtified; for the Aſſembly, notwithſtanding the majority approved that meaſure, would not, probably, have had the courage to ſtrike ſo bold a ſtroke: to accompliſh which the aſſiſtance of their maſters the mob, that auguſt rabble without breeches,* was actually neceſſary. Thoſe Deputies who had taken an active part in favour of Monſieur de la Fayette, were attacked by a furious mob on their way home from the Aſſembly, were inſulted, beaten, and had rubbiſh thrown in their faces; and this uſage was meant to intimidate the moderate Members, and ſhew them how little their inviolability would protect them againſt the *people*, ſhould they not obey *their* ſovereign voice in the great diſcuſſion that was to take place on the 10th. The complaints of thoſe Members who were thus ill-uſed, were treated with an indifferent contempt and neglect by the Jacobin party in the Aſſembly, which is another proof that they and the mob were acting altogether in concert.

* The ringleaders of them were called actually the *ſans culottes*, or men without breeches.

On

On the 9th of Auguſt, in the afternoon, Monſieur Rœderer, Procureur Syndic of the Department of Paris, appeared at the bar of the Aſſembly, and expreſſed ſtrong apprehenſions, that the peace of the capital would be diſturbed during the following night and day: he ſaid, that ſeveral Sections had reſolved to ring the alarm bell, and beat the drum at midnight, on purpoſe to aſſemble the people, and attack the King's palace, in order, as they expreſſed it, to ſave the nation, which was in danger from the perfidy of the King. The Aſſembly, without endeavouring to take any ſolid meaſures to prevent the danger, praiſed, in a cool manner, the zeal of Monſieur Roederer, and left to chance one of the moſt important and moſt preſſing objects that ever had been under their conſideration.

The fears of Monſieur Roederer were but too well founded. At midnight the alarm-bell was ſounded, and the drum beat in thoſe quarters from whence the rabble were expected, (that is to ſay) in the ſuburbs of St. Antoine, St. Marcel, and that part of the city where the Marſeillois and the Federates were quartered.

The Department, finding that M. Petion and the Common Council would not take any ſteps to prevent the danger, ordered out the national guards to protect the palace, and before day-break all the courts and avenues were filled by thoſe guards, and by the rabble armed with pikes. The interior of the palace was occupied by the Swiſs guards, and by a part of the national guards.

During this buſy period, the Sections of Paris, which are 48 in number, in their quality of permanence, had choſen Jacobin repreſentatives to replace the Common Councilmen, whom they conſidered as too moderate to ſecond their deſigns. Theſe new, and irregularly elected repreſentatives went in a body to the Common Hall, and took poſſeſſion of it by force, expelling thoſe who were there, and declaring that the people were *in a ſtate of ſovereign inſurrection, diſpoſed to make uſe of their natural rights.** Petion the Mayor, and Manuel, were alone continued in their functions, nor would it have been

* The complete nonſenſe, and pernicious jargon of this declaration, is a ſufficient ſatire on the principles from which it is very fairly deduced.

poſſible

poſſible to ſubſtitute in their places any others more violently attached to the Jacobin cauſe. By ſuch a bold and decided, though irregular ſtep, the Common Council was altogether of the Jacobin party, and ready to occupy the dictatorial poſt, which it has ſince filled with ſuch enormity of cruelty and crime. Thus then at midnight was the inſurrection complete on the part of the Sections; thoſe who had rung the alarm bells and aſſembled the *ſans culottes*, were alſo, it is pretty clear, in the ſame ſtate, and it is to be remarked, that all this happened while every thing was quiet at the Thuilleries; ſo that it is very evident by which party the plan was laid, and the operations begun. It is in vain that the intention to attack can be attributed to the party attached to the King, which remained quiet, and without any movement, while the moſt hardy and moſt adroit manœuvres were actually carried on by their enemies.

Early in the morning the unfortunate Monarch, who ſaw no end to his woes, had traverſed the Court of the Princes where the national troops were, in order to ſound their diſpoſitions; and for a moment the unanimity that ſeemed to reign, gave him hopes that

the danger was over. The cry of *vive le roi* on one hand, and of *vive la nation* on the other, ſerved as the diſtinctive marks of rebellion or of loyalty. As the true intention was to come to blows, it was neceſſary to deceive the King's party, and conceal their feebleneſs. Accordingly, until about eight o'clock in the morning, numbers of the national guards, and even of the men armed with pikes, called out *vive le roi.* At a moment fixed, or at a ſignal given, they changed their note, and cried, *vive la nation.* The weakneſs of the King's party was then evident, and it was then that the King, finding himſelf almoſt without protection, determined to throw himſelf, with his family, into the arms of the National Aſſembly.

Neither the wiſdom nor courage of this action merit praiſe. The King ought to have known, that the Aſſembly was bent upon his deſtruction, and the ſtudied and continued efforts by which he had been degraded, mortified, and reduced to a ſtate of paſſive obedience, were more than ſufficient to have determined him againſt ſuch a ſtep.

The

The national guards had, during the night, taken a ſtep, which might perhaps have inſured the public peace. M. Petion was at the palace, and, as the beſt means of keeping the rabble in awe, the guards propoſed detaining him as an hoſtage; but the Aſſembly was no ſooner informed of this, than, by a decree, M. Petion was ordered to come thither, and thereby releaſed from the Thuilleries; and ſuch was the implicit ſubmiſſion to that decree, that he was delivered up at the inſtant; ſo that while the inſurrection was declaredly begun in the 48 ſections, at the Town Houſe, and in almoſt every quarter of Paris, the ſubmiſſion to the Aſſembly was complete at the King's palace, and their order was inſtantaneouſly obeyed by men who had arms in their hands, and who, but a few hours after, paid very dearly for that obedience.

It ſeems pretty clear, that had the Swiſs guards really had an intention to put the people at defiance, this would not have happened. They certainly would have oppoſed delivering up M. Petion, the avowed champion of the mob, at ſo critical a moment; and it ſeems pretty clear alſo, that the Aſ-

ſembly favoured the deſigns of the people, otherwiſe it might have preſerved that cool indifference for the dangers of M. Petion, that it has ſo often ſhewn for thoſe of its King.

Thoſe, who by an unfortunate experience have been witneſſes to the horrible tactics of the leaders of a blood-thirſty mob, know that in order to animate the people, and raiſe them fairly to that pitch of rage and fury which is neceſſary for action, they muſt be worked up by the ſight of human blood. Accordingly, at eight o'clock in the morning a maſſacre was begun upon a number of perſons who had been arreſted during the night, and who were in cuſtody in a guard-houſe near the National Aſſembly ;* theſe were butchered in the moſt horrible manner.

The

* The unfortunate perſons ſo arreſted were accuſed of being armed with carbines and piſtols. Suppoſing they were, it was no great crime, at a moment when 50,000 blackguards were armed with pikes and daggers, and when the Marſeillois were marching through the ſtreets with cannon to attack their King. It is true, the ſeventeen people arreſted were men known to be attached to the royal cauſe, and were certainly imprudent ; for if they meant to be of real ſervice, they ſhould have collected themſelves in a larger

The head of M. Souleau, a man famous for the vigour of his writings, and his attachment to the royal cauſe, fell the firſt; it was ſawed from his body with a ſabre ſharpened upon the ſtones. Next, that of a man formerly an officer of the King's body guard, the *Beau Viſier*, ſo well known from the extreme beauty of his form. The ferocity of the multitude was gratified by cutting off the head of the handſomeſt man in Paris with a gardener's ſpade. Mademoiſelle Theroigne de Mericourt, a diſgrace to her ſex, and to the human race, preſided at theſe acts of barbarity with a horrid and inſulting gaiety. Five more heads were cut off at the ſame time, and were given immediately to the ragged multitude, to be carried upon pikes through the ſtreets, which was to thoſe who were not before in the ſecret the ſignal of revolt, and ſignified neither more nor leſs

larger body, and have been all armed, not with piſtols, but like other troops. However, it is believed by many, that even theſe ſeventeen were not in a body, but were royaliſts who were ſeized in the ſtreets, ſome going home after ſupper, and others walking about merely from inquietude, which was very natural after the denunciation, which Mr. Roederer had made at the bar of the Aſſembly in the afternoon. Be this as it may, the crime was not very great, and by no means merited ſo cruel a fate.

than

than this, that the people had prevailed in gaining the national guards, and that the day was to be marked by the triumph of the Jacobin party.

It was about half an hour after theſe heads had been carried in proceſſion, that the King, perceiving that the force was not on his ſide, went and put himſelf and his family under the protection of the National Aſſembly.

A circumſtance, undoubtedly true, proves, that an attack upon the Thuilleries had been previouſly determined: it is this; that at eight o'clock in the morning, which was two hours before the attack began, the national guard had ſent a large detachment to intercept the Swiſs guards, who were at their barracks at Courbevoie, but had been ordered to the palace. As ſoon as they met the Swiſs they ſaluted them with a diſcharge of muſquetry, and the four pieces of cannon which they had with them. The knowledge of the exact points of time at which each event took place, from the evening of the 9th to the attack of the Thuilleries, is of great importance to ſhew clearly which of the parties ſtruck the firſt blow.

The

The King, who went to the Aſſembly accompanied by the Queen, the Dauphin, Madame Royale, and his ſiſter Madame Elizabeth, paſſed by the Terrace of the Thuilleries attended by a number of Swiſs guards, ſome national guards, and a few of the attendants attached to his perſon. On his arrival in the Aſſembly, he placed himſelf on the Preſident's left hand, informing them, in a ſhort ſpeech, that as it was evident a great crime was intended to be committed, he had come to throw himſelf and his family under the protection of the Aſſembly. The Royal Family were then at the bar; but as the Aſſembly could not, according to forms, deliberate while the King was in the midſt of them, he alſo paſſed over to the bar, and remained there for ſome time, with the Queen and his children.

The queſtion of the deſtitution, or ſuſpenſion of the King, was juſt about to be diſcuſſed, when the ſound of the cannonade and muſquetry directed againſt the Thuilleries began. Here it is neceſſary to compare a number of facts together, in order to determine the great queſtion, whether the mob or the Swiſs guards gave the firſt fire.

All Paris, that is to ſay, every body in every public place, avers, that the Swiſs fired firſt; but then, as inſtant death would certainly have been the fate of any one who ſhould venture even to hint the contrary, this muſt not be conſidered as any proof at all. The Swiſs themſelves being all maſſacred or taken priſoners, they could not ſet the conduct of their regiments in its proper and true light; on the contrary, thoſe few unfortunate guards who ſtill exiſted, were glad to pacify the barbarous murderers of their comrades by all means in their power, and therefore were ready even to own themſelves guilty of giving the firſt fire. As the horrors of that day required all the extenuation poſſible, treachery and bad faith on the part of the Swiſs were alledged for that purpoſe: this was thought the moſt certain way to diminiſh that juſt anger and deteſtation, which the cruelties committed could not fail to excite in the minds of all mankind. The contrary, however, ſeems, from the following reaſons, to be true:

Firſt of all, the Swiſs guards had no cannon, which the Marſeillois and national guards had. Now the firſt diſcharge that

was heard was of artillery, not of muſquetry, and therefore could not have been made by the Swiſs guards.

In the ſecond place, it is devoid of all probability, that about 500 ſoldiers, ſhut up in a building like the Thuilleries, and ſurrounded by at leaſt 50,000 men in arms, and with artillery loaded with grape-ſhot pointed againſt them, ſhould be the firſt to puſh the matter to extremities, particularly as the King and Royal Family were gone.

In the third place, that vanity, which often gets the better of prudence, diſcloſed the truth, by inducing ſome of the Marſeillois to boaſt, that it was they who began the attack.

To theſe there is yet another proof to be added, which is, that a few minutes before the attack was made, ſeveral carriages arrived with ammunition for the artillery of the Marſeillois: now, it cannot be conceived that the Swiſs guards ſhould act ſo very madly, as to reſerve their fire juſt till their adverſaries were fully capable of reſiſtance, and then begin the attack. As every thing that

paſſed in the Place de Carouſel * was diſtinctly ſeen from the windows of the palace where the Swiſs were, it is impoſſible that they could be ignorant of this circumſtance.

Although it is clear, that evidence cannot be called on this queſtion, and though thoſe perſons who heard the Marſeillois thus boaſt of having begun the attack, would not at preſent appear to give actual teſtimony of it, yet it is, nevertheleſs, a fact that ſome of the Marſeillois did ſay ſo, under the pavilion of the Caffé de Foi in the Palais Royale, on the evening of the following Monday, which was the 13th of the month.

The cannonade began from the Place de Carouſel, but did no very great execution, the cannon being badly pointed, and for the moſt part much too high. The muſquetry of the Swiſs, on the contrary, levelled whole groups in a moment, and upon the firſt fire, all the national guards ran off, but rallied again in about a minute and a half. It was not ſo with the Marſeillois and their companions, who did not quit their poſt one

* See the engraving annexed.

moment; on the contrary, no ſooner were any of their number killed, but others took their places with the greateſt intrepidity, and without the loſs of an inſtant.

The Swiſs guards, determined to ſeize the cannon of their enemies, deſcended from the palace; but no ſooner were they in the court than they were ſhot at from behind by the national guards, who were ſtill in the palace. Thus were theſe unfortunate and brave troops placed between two fires, and though they actually took poſſeſſion of ſeveral cannons, and turned them againſt their enemies, whom they obliged to retreat for the moment, and purſued as far as the end of the Rue Traverſier, in the Rue St. Honoré,* where they took two more cannons, yet the numbers which poured in on all ſides againſt them were irreſiſtible. The people, in number like the ſand on the ſea ſhore, and animated with the fury of dæmons, attacked the palace from every quarter, and cut the Swiſs in pieces wherever they appeared. The mob, armed with pikes, ſabres, and fuſils, broke in by the Place Louis XV. into the

* See the engraving annexed,

gar-

garden, and from thence into the palace, maſſacring in their way, without pity, the Swiſs door-keepers, with their wives and children, though they were not any way concerned in what had happened.

The Swiſs, after a defence of fifteen or twenty minutes, were either taken or murdered one by one, being hunted down by the people like wild beaſts. It was thought a glorious act to give any of theſe ill-fated men a blow with a ſtick, a ſabre, or a bayonet, and ſtill more ſo to ſhoot him through the head.

On this day, as upon the ever-memorable maſſacre of St. Bartholomew, the wanton acts of cruelty upon unarmed and defenceleſs individuals, excite more horror, and are more diſgraceful to human nature, than the general tranſaction itſelf. Eighty-five of theſe unfortunate men, who had ſurrendered with hopes of mercy, and under the promiſe of a legal trial, were conducted to the Town Houſe, and being then in the hands of the civil magiſtrate, naturally imagined themſelves ſafe from the fury of the multitude; but they were miſtaken. The good people, whom a

certain

certain party admire ſo much for its juſtice and calm majeſty, was in *a glorious ſtate of inſurrection*, and as the priſoners deſcended one by one, a blackguard, miſerably dreſſed, and uttering the moſt ſhocking blaſphemies, ſhot them through the body; and when he became fatigued with firing, he paſſed the fuſil to another who was ready to take his place. During this horrible ſcene, the jeſts and witticiſms of the ſurrounding multitude were only interrupted by the ſhouts of applauſe or of indignation which the ſcene before them alternately excited, in favour of the executioners, or againſt the devoted victims.

The ſame tragedy, though on a ſmaller ſcale, was, in the mean time, going on throughout the whole extent of that large city, and even in the country adjacent. A poor ſoldier, who in flying for his life, found himſelf on the point of being ſeized, leapt over the battlements of the bridge (the Pont Neuf) into the river, and his purſuers very deliberately fired at and killed him as he ſwam in the water. Several inſtances, almoſt ſimilar, happened at and near the other bridge called the Pont Royal; and not a man, woman, nor child,

but gloried in having a piece of the bloody garments of a Swiſs, or ſtill more inhumanly, a morſel of his fleſh.

Many aſſaſſinations were likewiſe committed, which ſhewed that the party had before concerted what was to be done, and that it was not merely the blind rage of the moment that actuated the people. Monſieur de Clermont Tonnere, formerly deputy to the firſt National Aſſembly, and once a very popular man, but long ſince fallen into diſgrace, like many others, on account of the moderation of his principles, was dragged out of his carriage in the Fauxbourg St. Germain and murdered. Now, as this gentleman had long ſince ceaſed to make any noiſe, it is clear the people could not have any diſpleaſure againſt him at the moment, neither had any part of his conduct merited ſuch violent treatment, nor had he either ſaid or done any thing to enrage the multitude.

The cannons which played upon the Thuilleries were four-pounders, ſome loaded with ball, and others with grape-ſhot. A four-pounder, with ball, can do little execution, but with grape-ſhot may do a great deal.

Theſe

Theſe, however, were ſo badly directed, that they did not do much, as is eaſily to be ſeen by the palace itſelf; and as was to be ſeen by the dead bodies of the Swiſs, of whom the greater number ſeemed to have been killed with pikes, bayonets, or ſabres.

When the armed multitude entered the palace, every one who belonged to it was put to death, and every corner was ranſacked for victims. Swiſs, pages, gentlemen of the chamber, valets, chaplains, cooks, women, &c. &c. all underwent the ſame fate. As for the furniture, it was all broken, and the apartments pillaged. The ſtairs, antichamber, council chamber, chapel, cellars, garrets, kitchen, and every corner of the building, was ſtrewed with dead bodies, which here and there lay in great heaps of thirty or forty extended upon each other.

Some perſons carried to the National Aſſembly a part of the plate and other booty ſeized in the palace, and the good people were thereby exculpated from the charge of ſtealing: their honour and patriotiſm were praiſed by the Members of the Aſſembly, who knew, nevertheleſs, that while as much

much as might be worth about three hundred thouſand livres was ſaved, the value of above three millions was never heard of. It was an expiatory tythe which the people offered up to the Aſſembly; and the Aſſembly, of which it is ſaid the Members, in the morning, diſputed with each other the honour of running away,* dared not withhold its approbation from the conduct of the ſovereign people who demanded it.

During all this time, the King and his family were in a gallery of the Aſſembly, and witneſſed the outrages without number, and the accuſations without end that were brought againſt him. Not a ſingle individual, known or unknown, that demanded to be heard at the bar in accuſation of the executive power, but was attended to and applauded. From the Friday morning until the Monday evening did the Royal Family remain there, ſitting by day in the gallery, and ſleeping by

* The newſpaper which publiſhed the debates, and which had a box in the gallery, aſſigned by the Aſſembly for that purpoſe, was ſuppreſſed for having ſaid that the Members diſputed with each other the honour of running away. As this was a patriotic paper, we may give it credit for the fact which it announced.

night

night in a ſmall committee chamber adjoining to the Aſſembly. On the Monday, however, after various debates, and even after a decree by which the King and his family were to have been lodged in the hotel formerly belonging to the Chancellor, in the Place de Vendome, it was determined that he ſhould be tranſported to a tower in the Temple, there to be kept a cloſe priſoner. This was accordingly executed on the Monday afternoon, in the preſence of an immenſe multitude, of which the individuals ſtrove who ſhould load the dethroned Monarch, and his unhappy Queen, with the moſt virulent abuſe. Every thing which the vileſt and loweſt of the people could imagine of the moſt abominable and coarſeſt obloquies was vomited forth in torrents againſt the royal priſoners, who, in the very exceſs of rage which tormented their enemies, might enjoy a kind of triumph.

During the firſt two or three days, the Aſſembly, without diſcuſſing any one queſtion, paſſed above fifty acts of the higheſt importance, which ſhews that it was under the influence either of fear or of force, as it is clear that it performed only a paſſive part.

The Miniſters belonging to the Jacobin club, who had been diſmiſſed by the King, in the beginning of the month of June, were replaced with great powers, and conſtituted a council of regency with all the authority, which the King himſelf poſſeſſed, except that of giving ſanction to the decrees of the Aſſembly, which was no longer neceſſary.

The decree, ordering what they called a National Convention, for the purpoſe of forming a new conſtitution, was alſo paſſed; and if the King of Pruſſia were not ſo near at hand, that decree would have been a very material one:—as it is, it may be of conſequence, or not, according to the circumſtances which may happen to prevail when it ſhould be carried into its execution.

To enter into a minute detail of all that has happened, would ſerve to little or no good purpoſe. The acts of cruelty and perfidy then perpetrated, are too numerous and too diſgraceful to humanity to be collected for the purpoſe of laying them before mankind. Beſides, detached facts are not always well authenticated, and as it is to prevent error that this is written, it would be

inexcuſable to venture upon details that are liable to the ſmalleſt uncertainty.

The number of perſons killed is ſuppoſed conſiderably to exceed two thouſand, though the citizens and the mob concealed their loſs by carrying off immediately their dead and wounded; and, by a deputation to the Aſſembly, declared that forty citizens had loſt their lives in the fatal affair of that day.

The municipal officers or common councilmen act their part to admiration. They have named a court for trying all the priſoners taken on that day; and ſince that time numbers of perſons have been dragged every night from their beds, and thrown into dungeons. The executions are begun, and the judgements are ſhort and ſummary.

All this, however, cannot go on: for the men who are at the head of affairs have neither the abilities, conduct, nor experience neceſſary to conduct them. Beſides, in order to keep the national guard and the people in awe, Santerre, the brewer, was named commander. He is a man without education, haughty, and proud. His companions in iniquity

quity are obliged to employ him, becauſe of his popularity, but do not dare to truſt his abilities; an aſſiſtant is therefore employed as a counſellor. Here is almoſt a certain cauſe for a breach, before many weeks elapſe; for Santerre is not like the cunning camelion, La Fayette, who veered about as the wind ſhifted, nor can he bear contradiction, and therefore a miſunderſtanding muſt ſoon be the conſequence.

Another thing is, that the people who are, and certainly will continue to be the maſters, will become more poor and miſerable every day, and will break their preſent idols as they have broken thoſe they had ſet up before. Petion, Manuel, Santerre, Rolland, Claviere, Chubot, Merlin, Bazire, and their comrades, may expect to ſhare the fate of Neckar, La Fayette, Barnave, Lameth, and thoſe others who have ſtrutted their hour upon the ſtage, and who may repeat theſe two lines of Pope,

"Theſe creatures had their taſte of life before,
"We too muſt periſh when our taſte is o'er."

But

But ſtill there is this difference between the former and the preſent idols of the people. The rapidity of the preſent dicline, is from ſeveral cauſes, amazingly augmented; and their hour of glory will be proportionably ſhortened.

All this is without ſuppoſing that the combined armies of the Emperor and the King of Pruſſia will advance upon Paris, which is more than probable, and which if they do, the fate of thoſe who have dyed their hands ſo deep in the blood of their fellow-creatures, will be yet more ſpeedily decided.

Other nations, and particularly the Engliſh, who enjoy real liberty, and a conſtitution under which they have arrived at an unexampled pitch of happineſs, cannot eaſily conceive by what means the French nation, which formerly was ſo completely devoted to its kings, has of late years ſhewn the ſtrongeſt hatred againſt kingly power; and then again, how that ſame nation, after having fabricated a conſtitution which it extolled as a perfect work, and gave to it a name above every name, which every individual

ſwore,

ſwore, not once, but fifty times, to preſerve inviolable at the riſk of his life, ſhould with equal avidity take a new oath, and ſee the conſtitution overturned without making a ſingle effort to preſerve it. This really requires a key to explain it. The bulk of the nation are, to ſpeak in common language, like the vicar of Bray, and it is a faction that governs. The deſigns of the faction are turned towards univerſal anarchy, the National Aſſembly is their tool, and whatever be their aim and their will, as long as the power is in their hands, the bulk of the nation will ſubmit, in the ſame manner as it has formerly done to its kings, and as it now does to the Marſeillois. The nation is fundamentally corrupted with luxury and vice, and is at the mercy of every conqueror; and all thoſe who imagine that the high-ſounding words of *death* or *liberty*, in the mouths of the French, mark a firm determination, are as much miſtaken as they are who believed in their attachment to the conſtitution, which is now as completely overturned by the affair of the 10th, as the ancient monarchy was by the revolt in the month of July, 1789.

The

The French nation has no true idea of liberty, and is ſeeking a thing it does not know; and this explains the facility with which the leaders perſuade the bulk of the people that they are in ſearch of that bleſſing, when in reality they are purſuing a ſort of equality and anarchy, which can exiſt but a very ſhort time in any ſociety, and which muſt reduce the nation where they reign to miſery and inſignificance.

The anonymous writers of this, who were preſent at Paris on the 10th, can aſſure the world, that amongſt the preſent municipality, and thoſe who rule in that diſtracted city, there is not one citizen either of property, or of unimpeached character. As to the papers pretended to be found in the palace, and with the Intendant of the Civil Liſt, it is more than probable that they are fabricated, or that the ſenſe of them is miſinterpreted. Be that as it may, the illegal and unjuſt manner in which the perſons ſuſpected by the ruling party are tried and condemned, muſt ſtrike all mankind as the moſt horrible method of committing *murder*; nor will all the falſe accounts propagated and ſupported by all

the money of that party, ever waſh away the idea of premeditated *aſſaſſination*, which trials before the parties concerned, hurried on with unprecedented precipitation, and judgement executed in the ſame inſtant, muſt always preſent to other nations.

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